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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO. (1)

TOPIC Military Information from Rathenow

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

22 June 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 5 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. Documents bearing [redacted] were found at the Infanterie Kaserne and the Pionier Kaserne, Rathenow (N 53/4 15), in April 1950. The documents are described below:

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A letter addressed to a soldier of [redacted], dated 15 March 1950.

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Fragment of an envelope addressed to a soldier of [redacted], postmarked 8 March 1950.

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Guard roster for enlisted men of an artillery battalion.

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Letter addressed to a soldier of Unit [redacted] dated 8 December 1949, examined by Censorship Office [redacted]

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Letter addressed to a soldier of Unit [redacted], dated 16 March 1950, examined by Censorship office [redacted]

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Application from a medical instructor to the chief of the medical section of Unit [redacted] requesting a brief home leave, dated 5 April 1950.

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Document No.	010
No Change in Class.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Class. Changed To:	TS S C
Auth:	HR 70-2
Date:	20 JUN 1978
By:	bls

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2. Documents bearing [REDACTED] were found at the Kraftfahrzeug Kaserne on 25 April 1950. These documents are described as follows:

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Letter addressed to a soldier of [REDACTED], dated 27 January 1950, mailed by a soldier of [REDACTED] Kolomya, Stanislav Oblast.

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Envelope addressed to a soldier of [REDACTED], postmarked 13 April 1950, examined by Censorship Office [REDACTED], mailed by a soldier of Unit APN 31 93 M, Panevezh, Lithuanian SSR.

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Envelopes from soldiers of Unit [REDACTED], postmarked 26 January 1950 and 15 February 1950, examined by Censorship Offices [REDACTED]

3. Eight boxcars were loaded with soldiers on 21 April 1950. Each car carried twenty to thirty soldiers, all of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets. Some of the men wore artillery insignia. Six boxcars standing on the spur leading to the depot west of the Kraftfahrzeug Kaserne were loaded with ammunition. Six flatcars were each loaded with one tractor. There were 31 additional flatcars, twelve of which were loaded with one canvas-covered gun each, and nineteen of which carried one truck each, including [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] in the direction of Brandenburg at 5 p.m.

4. A train loaded on 22 April 1950 consisted of twelve boxcars and about 38 flatcars. Six of the boxcars were each loaded with twenty to thirty soldiers, wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Four of the boxcars were loaded with ammunition boxes. Of the flatcars, four were loaded with one tractor each, four with one gun each, six with two guns each, and about

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twenty with an undetermined number of trucks

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5. Documents bearing [REDACTED] were found near the motor vehicle repair shop on Ebert-Ringstrasse on 10 May 1950.(2) The documents found included the following:

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Two envelopes addressed to soldiers of [REDACTED] postmarked 4 August 1949 and 24 March 1950, examined by Censorship Offices [REDACTED]

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Two lists showing repair work to be done on field telephones belonging to Unit [REDACTED]

6. [REDACTED]

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7. Documents bearing [REDACTED] were found at the barracks near the Rathenow-North railroad station on 16 May 1950. The documents found included the following:

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Envelope addressed to a soldier of Unit [REDACTED] postmarked 27 April 1950, examined by Censorship Office [REDACTED]

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Envelope addressed to a soldier of Unit [REDACTED] postmarked 13 March 1950, examined by Censorship Office [REDACTED]

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Receipt stating that a motion picture projector of Unit [REDACTED] was taken by the political special service section of Unit [REDACTED]

Letter from a woman, presumably an officer's wife, to her friends in Germany, dated 28 February 1950. An excerpt from the letter follows -

"We arrived safely. In Berlin our baggage was speedily bound with steel straps. When you leave, be sure that your travel papers are in order. In

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addition to your free-luggage certificate, which must specify the weight of the baggage, you need an authorization from Potsdam, otherwise you must pay for it. We had to stay in Berlin until Wednesday, waiting for this entry..... I paid 400 eastmarks for the Berlin-Brest Litovsk ticket We arrived here on 31 January, but we have not yet started working because we intend to change our place of residence, and this takes quite a long time Here you can buy everything you like, clothing as well as food. You hardly know what to buy, seeing in the stores so many delicacies one has done without since the good old times before the war. But the money on hand restricts one's purchases My best regards to the Kladoy and Titarenko families."

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9. Four 85-mm AA guns were emplaced at the edge of Athenow on the road leading to Semlin. There were tents for the gun crews.(3)

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Comments.

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